

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NIAMEY 05491 140808Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 CPR-01 PER-01 SSC-01
TRSE-00 COME-00 EA-07 SS-15 /046 W
----- 121522 /17
R 140750Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5553

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 5491

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, NG, US
SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

REF: A. NIAMEY 5459, B. NIAMEY 5195

1. IN A MILITARILY PRECISE AND ELEGANTLY SIMPLE CEREMONY I
PRESENTED MY CREDENTIALS TO THE CHIEF OF STATE, PRESIDENT OF
CMS, LT. COL. SEYNI KOUNTCHE, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 11
AT 0900.

2. IN MARKED CONTRAST TO THE FORMALITY OF THE SIMPLE CEREMONY,
THE PRESIDENT WAS UNUSUALLY RELAXED AND TALKATIVE DURING OUR
TETE-A-TETE. INTER ALIA, HE EXPRESSED THE GRATITUDE OF THE
GOVERNMENT TO THE UNITED STATES FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE. HE COMMENTED ON THE ELECTION, EXPRESSING THE
HOPE THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD CONTINUE ITS NEWLY
DEVELOPED INTEREST IN AFRICA DURING THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.
HE MADE TWO REFERENCES TO THE TRAGEDIES OF WATERGATE, VIET NAM,
AND ANGOLA IN THE CONTEXT OF AN EXPRESSED DESIRE THAT THE
UNITED STATES COULD BURY THESE TRAUMATIC EVENTS AND REASSUME
ITS POSITION AS A GREAT AND RESPECTED LEADER AMONG NATIONS.

3. HE FURTHER COMMENTED THAT SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER
HAD BEEN AN EXTREMELY ABLE DIPLOMAT AND HE HOPED THAT THE
NEW ADMINISTRATION WOULD BUILD ON THE FOUNDATION CONSTRUCTED
BY HIS UNIQUE EFFORTS. HE REFLECTED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF
THE NIGER RIVER AND ITS POTENTIAL FOR IRRIGATION
PROJECTS AND INDICATED THAT HE WANTED TO HAVE A MORE
EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION ON DEVELOPMENT WEDNESDAY, THE 5TH AT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NIAMEY 05491 140808Z

10:00 A.M.

4. I ANTICIPATE FURTHER DISCUSSION ABOUT THE MIXED COMMISSION WHICH WAS RAISED BY ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER MOUNKEILA AND REPORTED REFTEL A. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE PRESIDENT MAY WISH TO DISCUSS THE ACTIVITIES OF US FIRMS WITH PETROLEUM AND URANIUM CONCESSIONS THOUGH HE MADE NO REFERENCE TO THESE IN OUR CONVERSATION. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT HE WILL INQUIRE ABOUT OUR "COMMITMENT" OF 4500 TONS OF GRAIN WHICH OUR NOTE EXPLAINED COULD NOT BE PROVIDED FOR RESERVE STOCK (REFTEL B). IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THIS POINT WILL BE STRONGLY URGED IN VIEW OF HIS COMMENT THAT THE NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION DECEMBER 18 WILL BE A CELEBRATION OF NIGER'S EXCEPTIONAL HARVEST.

5. THE CONVERSATION, ALTHOUGH SERIOUS, WAS RELAXED AND FRIENDLY. JAMES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PFOR, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NIAMEY05491
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760460-0065
From: NIAMEY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761245/aaaabmhi.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A.NIAMEY 5459, B.NIAMEY 5195, 76 NIAMEY 5459, 76 NIAMEY 5195
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2004 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, NG, US, (KOUNTCHE, SEYNI), (JAMES, CHARLES A)
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006